

# 1-1 Cav, SETAF

## team up for CMTC rotation



69th Chemical Company soldiers ride high in the saddle on their way to support 1-1 Cav and SETAF.



SETAF soldiers provide light and highly-mobile support and security for the heavier forces of 1st Armored Division's 1-1 Cav (Above and below).



Story and photos by  
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HOHENFELS, Germany—The 1st Squadron, 1st U.S. Cavalry combined with units from the Southern European Task Force, stationed in Italy, to complete a rotation at the Combat Maneuver Training Center, in Hohenfels, early September.

SETAF provided light forces while 1-1 Cav supplied heavy-mechanized vehicles for the rotation.

The two units went through a variety of exercises during their combined rotation that involved simulated combat situations at the platoon-, troop-, and squadron-level. The final exercise was a day-long simulated battle against

an operational force consisting of Army National Guard units from Pennsylvania, California and New Jersey.

"I thought the battle went pretty well today," said Lt. Col. Michael A. Bills, 1-1 Cav squadron commander. "The defense that we put together was a tough one to build and execute. But I felt that we did accomplish everything that we were supposed to do."

"It was a great experience," said Cpt. James E. Turly, 1-1 Cav adjutant. "We had two [units] who usually don't play together — light forces and heavy forces. We put them together and they complimented each other. It was a great training opportunity."

"Working with SETAF was a tremendous experience," said Bills. "Learning the light side of the Army and, conversely, for the light side to

learn about the heavy side of the Army, and to put our tools together on the battlefield showed great dividends in terms of destroying the enemy, as well."

SETAF deployed to Hohenfels because they do not have any training areas in Italy as large as CMTC, according to 1st Lt. Jason A. Henderson, a platoon leader with Company C, 1st Battalion, 508th Airborne Combat Team.

"The terrain is also diverse enough that we get a mix of different areas to work in," said Henderson. "Working with 1-1 Cav has been great. It gave us assets that we normally wouldn't have when going through this kind of exercise."

From the commanders to the tankers, most of those involved learned a lot from working with soldiers from



Girded in the full armor of an M1A1 Abrams tank, 1-1 Cav tankers scan the terrain of Hohenfels, seeking an opponent for the joust.

a different kind of unit, according to Spc. Robert W. Cummings, a driver with Bandit Troop, 1-1 Cav.

"This was a good experience because if we go to war we are going to be working side by side with all kinds of different units," said Cummings. "This exercise gave us a good taste of how two different units can support each other in accomplishing one mission."



SETAF soldiers build a barricade of concertina wire in preparation for OPFOR's onslaught.

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